

US Application 09/966686

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Examiner: Jimenez

### PROPOSED CLAIMS

- A. A method of reducing a stent in cross-section comprising the steps of
  - a) providing an iris crimper having an aperture;
  - b) placing a stent within the aperture;
  - c) partially or fully crimping the stent by reducing the size of the aperture.
- B. A method of reducing a stent in cross-section comprising the steps of
  - a) providing a crimper having a plurality of closely spaced movable dies defining an aperture, the dies arranged to form an iris;
  - b) placing a stent disposed about a catheter within the aperture;
  - c) partially or fully crimping the stent onto the catheter by reducing the size of the aperture.
- C. A method of crimping a stent comprising the steps of:
  - a) providing a crimper having a plurality of closely spaced overlapping movable dies defining an aperture, the aperture sized to receive a stent therein;
  - b) placing a stent disposed about a catheter within the aperture;
  - c) reducing the size of the aperture by moving the movable dies, the dies contacting the stent and partially or fully crimping the stent onto the catheter.